

I am a client of an independent ISP, Sonic.net, and pleased with the service they provide, particularly in comparison to the large phone companies. We understand BellSouth has filed a petition, asking the FCC to cease regulating broadband service. Sonic.net currently contracts with SBC for its DSL service, which we utilize.

While BellSouth does not serve California, if its request were granted we would expect SBC to follow suit. This could jeopardize Sonic.net's ability to provide DSL service, and its customers could suffer badly and be forced to become clients of one of the large telephone companies.

This would disappoint us. We urge you to deny the BellSouth's petition and others like it that might follow. The large telephone monopolies need to work in harmony with the independent ISP's, not drive them out of business. Kenton Clark